

TELLS OF THE ARMY.

A New Mexican Impressed With Diaz' Soldiers—Other Subjects.

While in the City of Mexico, a few days ago, R. E. Twitchell was made the subject of an interview employed by the Herald, an English paper of that city. Since coming home, he has been explaining that he did not know he was being interviewed at all. One of the interviews, reproduced in The Optic Thursday evening, was evidently written up second hand, as Mr. Twitchell says he met no one to whom he could have given that particular information. Then, like all secondhand goods, it had been badly worn in the handling.

The Mexican Herald of Sunday, September 17, has an interview that Mr. Twitchell acknowledges. It treats of the appearance of the Mexican army on parade during the national festival, of the gallant conduct of the Rough Riders coming from New Mexico, of the Thirty-fourth volunteer regiment recently organized, of Democratic and Republican politics and finally concludes with this:

"What about the Philippines?"
"Oh, I think we will hold them," said Mr. Twitchell.

That part of the interview relating to the Mexican army, Mr. Twitchell is quoted in the Mexican Herald as saying:

"I was surprised to note the splendid appearance of the Mexican army and of the Rurales in particular. They are a splendid looking lot of men and would be a credit to any country. The character of the equipments and especially of the horses of the army was a revelation to me, as I had no idea that Mexico paid so much attention to her army.

"The parade which took place on the 15th in honor of the saints day of President Diaz, did in point of magnificence and beauty surpass many of the large parades in the United States. There was nothing in the Peace Jubilee at Chicago held in honor of the soldiers and sailors who fought in the Spanish-American war, which surpassed in elegance and beauty the various triumphal arches erected on Avenida Juarez and San Francisco street, particularly the Mosale arch erected on calle San Francisco.

"I was particularly impressed," said Mr. Twitchell, "with the manner in which the festivities of the night of the 15th were carried out by the inhabitants of the city, and do not believe that in such cities as Chicago and New York such license and freedom of entertainment would be permitted for a moment, owing to the character and tendencies of the larger class of the population in those great centers, and I believe it to be very complimentary to the Mexicans. The fact that so much good nature was displayed by the large crowds is but additional evidence of the confidence and trust which the people of Mexico have in their national and municipal governments."

In speaking to a reporter for The Optic Mr. Twitchell again referred to the appearance of the Mexican soldiers. He referred to the crack cavalry regiment of the army more particularly, saying:

"Every man in it seemed to have a fine, thoroughbred horse, of the kind one would naturally see in the large cities. There wasn't a saddle used that cost less than \$100 and many of them as much as \$1,000. Without exception they were trimmed with carved leather and silver in a gorgeous and extravagant manner. The troopers wore the finest kind of hats, too, all trimmed up with silver braid, and none of them costing less than \$25. There is nothing in the United States army in the way of equipment that can come up to this regiment I speak of.

"I also noticed that in all the cavalry regiments the various troops had

horses of a uniform color, one troop having gray horses only and so on through the list.

"The illuminations on the night of the 15th were the grandest that I ever saw, having been produced by electricity. The cathedral, plaza and presidential palace were a blaze of light. On the night of the 15th, the immense plaza, 800 feet wide, was densely crowded with people, packed so tightly together that it was impossible to move. At 11 o'clock that night President Diaz appeared and rang the bell that proclaimed liberty at the hands of General Benito Juarez. As he did so, a band of music of 500 instruments struck up the national air and the immense throng took up the song. The volume of sound was overpowering and truly magnificent."

This was Mr. Twitchell's first visit to the City of Mexico, although he has been in different parts of the republic at various times.

Wonderful Vegetable Life.

A writer in the Texas Farm and Ranch, who recently made a trip through the Sacramento mountains, says in part:

"You lovers of Maiden-hair fern, think of literally walking upon it almost every step you take, and down in the rich canons to find it six feet high. Of garden plants, I have been astonished, and feel that a further stay might bring forth new discoveries. This is the home of the white potato, known to us now as the Irish potato, or 'spuda.' It is everywhere, and often attains the size of a hen's egg, wild in nature. There are successfully grown here turnips, mustard, onions, parsley, carrots, mint, berries, the strawberry, raspberry and gooseberry; the latter is delicious, and to show how nature protects herself, the gooseberry has thorny protuberances on the berry, which are lost in cultivation. Here nature must protect herself. Wild yarrow see everywhere. The white daisies are the largest, finest I have ever seen. Purple asters, with their rich, gold hearts flaunt their beauty on every hand. Furnishing a relief by their delicate green, is the Maiden fern for all this rich coloring. Finest apples, peaches, plums or prunes, and cantaloupes so delicious that their richness fairly melt in your mouth. There are many varieties, and every one to his or her taste.

GAGE PASSES THROUGH

Secretary of the United States Treasury on His Way to Grand Canon.

Lyman J. Gage, secretary of the United States treasury, passed through Las Vegas on No. 1 this afternoon on his way to the Grand Canon of the Colorado. He traveled in one of the special cars of the Santa Fe railroad as a guest of E. E. Ayer, a Chicago millionaire. In the party were Mrs. Lyman J. Gage and Mrs. E. E. Ayer.

Mr. Gage walked for a few brief minutes up and down the depot platform in a leisurely manner and then sought the seclusion of the car. Mr. and Mrs. Ayer continued their promenade until the conductor sounded his cry: All aboard!

In a local way, Mr. Ayer is a subject of local interest, having campaigned in New Mexico in the early '60's as a member of a California regiment and also of the First New Mexico infantry. He left the military service in 1864. He also built the first sawmill at Flagstaff, Ariz., sixteen years before the railroad made its advent to that place. At present he is largely interested in the tie preserving business in Texas.

The party will stop at Flagstaff and take the stage from there to visit the canon. This is Mr. Gage's first visit there but not Mr. Ayer's.

Holman Letter

To the Editor of THE OPTIC.

Holman, N. M., Sept. 10, 1899.—A most strange, as well as horrible accident happened near Guadalupe, this county, in which eight lives were crushed out, last Saturday night. A man named Manuel Cordova, his wife, his married daughter and baby, and four of his children were killed by the falling in of the roof of their log cabin while they were asleep, only one occupant of the house escaping uninjured, a boy about 12 years old, who happened to be in one corner at the time of the breaking in of the roof; the roof of the cabin, which rested on one heavy beam in the center, running length way from one end to the other, had about a foot of dirt on it, which had become much heavier by the recent rains, caused the beam to break, dropping the dirt, etc., on the unsuspecting victims, crushing and smothering their lives almost instantly. The little boy who escaped had to go about two miles to the nearest neighbors, but when they came it was too late. The eight bodies were buried yesterday morning.

M. Strousse & Co. of Mora are putting in a number of alterations and improvements in their big store room at Mora. When it is finished it will be second to none in this county in size and in general appearance. Simon Vorenberg, the genial manager, will see that everything is done right. M. Strousse & Co's. is one of the largest, if not the largest, business houses in Mora county.

Tito Melendez, present county clerk and big saw mill man, will move his saw mill from its present location to a canon about half way between this place and Cleveland known as the Maes' canon.

A big horse race will be run on the

30th inst. at this place, between the "White" horse from Pecosco, Tazs county, and the "Penco" Romero's horse. This race was matched once and for some reason better known to themselves it was not run, so that a great deal of interest as well as speculation on the outcome of this race is being taken.

CON.

Wants to Show Them.

Hon. Frank Manzaneros of this city has just received a handsome photographic reproduction of an invitation extended to the members of the national Democratic committee by the city of Milwaukee. The town made famous by its beer is ambitious to secure the next national Democratic convention. In addition to its liquid amber, which all Milwaukeeans believe is the proper thing at all seasons and for all occasions, the citizens there think they have other things that will please the Democrats. So laboring under the impression, no doubt, that a large proportion of the ranks of the Democracy is recruited in Missouri and need to be shown, the mayor and common council of the city invite the members of the national committee to visit the place and, to quote the language of the document, "see for themselves the facilities and advantages it affords."

Fighting Over Mining Claims.

A special from Springer, dated September 23, says: At Elizabethtown last Sunday, Joseph Lowrie and William Rael, in a six shooter scrap over a mining location, Rael having a patented claim that laps over Lowrie's, Lowrie drew a six shooter and Rael knocked him down and friends came to the assistance of both. Rael went to Raton today to present his case before the grand jury.

It is sometimes difficult to determine whether a woman loves or hates a man when she declines to speak his name.

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